

FLD 88

CLASSIFICATION

SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Cottbus Airfield

25X1A

EVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1C

DATE OF CONTENT June to 16 July 1953

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

11 August 1953

REFERENCES

25X1C

PAGES

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ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

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1. In June 1953, construction work was observed at Cottbus airfield north of the highway to Burg. Construction material as well as Diesel locomotives with dumpcars were seen along this road.

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2. On 30 June at 1:40 p.m., 10 MiG-15 and U-MiG-15 planes, including Nos 242, 411 and 418, took off from Cottbus airfield, assembled in a formation in the air and then landed one after the other at 1:55 p.m. Between 10 p.m. and midnight on 7 July, local individual flights were made. During the nights of 7, 8, 9 and 10 July, local flying was continuously practiced by individual jet planes. At noon on 9 July, 80 to 90 MiG-15 and U-MiG-15 planes and 17 Yak-11s were parked at the field. There was local flying by the Yak-11s.
3. In early July, source determined that VPL personnel were quartered in the Funker Kaserne in Cottbus.
4. The number of jet fighters at the field was increased around 10 July. The crates previously observed in the northeastern corner of the field were still observed there. The guard at the field was more strict than before.
5. Between 19 and 30 June, no activity was observed at the field. After 1 July, swept-back jet planes practiced flying in formations of fours and nines. On 16 July, about 150 swept-back jet fighters and a number of single-engine planes were stationed at the field.
6. On 14 July, the field was occupied by about 140 sweptback jet fighters of which 90 were counted. On 15 and 16 July, individual planes departed heading east. These planes had not been observed to have returned as of 18 July.

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1. [] Comment. Since April 1953, when new MiG-15s arrived at Cottbus airfield, the field has been occupied by 80 to 90 MiG-15 aircraft. At present, the MiG-15s are probably flown by pilots of the Soviet training regiment. See []

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2. [] Comment. The former Funker Kaserne is occupied by the VPL operations staff which was transferred from Berlin-Johannisthal to Cottbus.

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3. [] Comment. The increased number of MiG-15s at Cottbus airfield was confirmed by several sources. Another [] aircraft from Puetnitz, Grossenhain, Zerbst and Laerz airfields were stationed in Cottbus between 14 and 16 July. The aircraft conducted an exercise possibly in connection with Soviet Army units in the Goerlitz area.

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